

THE
HISTORY
OF
Waltham-Abby in Essex,
Founded by
KING HAROLD.

*Patria est ubicunq; est bene
Bene vixit, qui bene latuit.*

By THOMAS FULLER, the CURATE thereof.



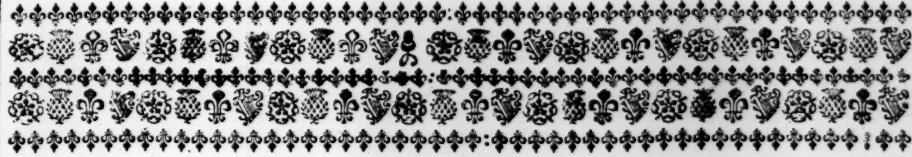
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To the Right Honourable,

JAMES HAY,

EARL of *CARLILE*, VISCOUNT *Doncaster*,
BARON of *Sauley* and *Waltham*.

Have formerly in this History presumed to trouble your Honour, and now adventure the second time. Indeed this Treatise containeth the description of your large Demesnes, and larger Royalty and Command. Should I therefore present it to any other, save your self, it would be held as a STRAY indeed, (wandering out of the right way it should go in) and so, (without any thanks to me) would fall to your Lordship, as due unto you by the Custome of your Manor.

Your Honours most obliged
Servant and Chaplain.

6 A 2 THOMAS FULLER.



THE
HISTORY
O F
Waltham-Abby.



Rovidence, by the hand of my worthy friends, having planted me for the prefent at *Waltham-Abby*, I conceive, that in our general work of *Abbies*, I owe some particular description to that place of my abode. Hoping my endeavours herein may prove exemplary to others (who dwell in the sight of remarkable Monasteries) to do the like, and rescue the obserables of their habitations, from the teeth of time and oblivion.

The Authors
design.

Waltham is so called from the Saxon *Ham*, which is a *Town* (whence the Diminutive *Ham-let*) and *weald*, or *wealt*, that is, *woody* (whence the *Weald* of *Kent*) it being Anciently over-grown with trees and timber. Thus *Kiriath-jearim*, or the *City of the woods*, in *Palestine*; *Dendros*, an Island in *Peloponnesus Sylvacum*, an Ancient City in *Belgia*, got their names from the like woody scituacion. Some will have it called *waltham*, quasi *wealthie-Ham*: I wish they could make their words good, in respect of the persons living therein, though in regard of the soyl it self, indeed it is rich and plentiful.

Waltham why
so named.

The *Town* is seated on the East side of the River *Ley*, which not onely parteth *Hertford*-shire from *Essex*, but also seven times parteth from its self, whose septemfluous stream in coming to the Town, is crossed again with so many bridges. On the one side, the Town it self hath large and fruitful Medows (whose intrinsec value is much raised by the vicinity of *London*) the grafs whereof when first gotten an head, is so sweet and lushious to Cattle, that they diet them at the first entring therein to half an hour a day, lest otherwise they over-eat themselves, which some Kine yearlie do, and quickly die for it, notwithstanding all their *Keepers* care to the contrary. On the other side a spacious Forest spreads it self, where, fourteen years since, one might have seen whole Herds of *Red* and *Fallow Deer*. But these late licentious years have been such a *Nimrod*, such an *Hunter*, that all at this present are destroyed, though I could wish this were the worst effect which our woful Wars have produced.

The situation
thereof.

The

Excused
from bad air.

The *aire* of the Town is condemned by many, for over-moist and Aguish, caused by the depressed scituatiōn thereof. In confutation of which censure, we produce the many aged persons in our *Town*, (above threescore and ten, since my coming hither, above threescore and ten years of age) so that it seemes, we are sufficiently healthful, if sufficiently thankful for the same. Sure I am, what is wanting in good *air* in the *Town*, is supplied in the *Parish*, wherein as many pleasant hilts and prospects are, as any place in *England* doth afford.

First Found-
ed by *Tovi*.

Tovi, a man of great wealth and authority, as being the Kings *Staller*, (that is, *Standard-Bearer*) first Founded this Town, for the great delight which he took in the *game*, the place having plenty of *Deer*. He planted onely threescore and six in-dwellers therein.

Falls back to
the Crown.

Athelstan, his son, proved a Prodigal, and quickly spent all his Fathers goods and great estate, so that by some transactions the place returned to the Crown.

Bestowed on
Earl Harold

Edward the *Confessor*, bestowed *waltham*, with the Lands thereabouts, on *Harold* his Brother-in-law, who presently built and endowed therein a *Monastery*, whereof nothing at this day is extant, save the *West end*, or body of the Church.

The model of
the modern
Church.

A structure of *Gothish-building*, rather large then neate, firm then fair. Very dark (the deſign of thoſe dayes to raiſe devotion) ſave that it was helped again with artificial lights; and is obſerved by Artiſts to ſtand the moſt exactly *East* and *West* of any in *England*. The great pillars thereof are wreathed with indentings, which vacuitiēs, if formerly filled up with *Brasſe* (as ſome confidently report) added muſh to the beauty of the building. But, it matters not ſo muſh their taking away the *Brasſe* from the Pillars, had they but left the *Lead* on the *Roof*, which is but meanly *Tiled* at this day. In a word, the beſt commendation of the Church is, that on *Lords-dayes* generally it is filled with a *great* and *attentive* *Congregation*.

Mortality tri-
umphante.

To the *South*-ſide of the Church is joyned a *Chappel*, formerly *our Ladies*, now a *School-house*, and under it an arched *Charnel-house*, the faireſt that ever I ſaw. Here, a pious fancy could make a *feast* to its ſelf on thoſe *dry bones*, with the meditation of mortality: where, it is hard, yea, imposſible to diſcern the *Sculls* of a rich, from a poor; wife, from a ſimple; noble, from a mean person. Thus all counters are alike when put up together in the box, or bag; though, in casting of account, of far diſferent valuation.

A Dean and
Canons foun-
ded at *Wal-
tham*.

King *Harold* Dedicated the *Monastery* to the honour of an *Holy Cross*, found far *West-ward*, and brought hither (as they write) by miracle; whence the Town hath the addition of *waltham-Holy-Cross*; but the Church we finde in after ages alſo Dedicated to *St Laurence*. His foundation was for a *Dean*, and eleven *Secular Black Canons*. Let none challenge the words of impropriety, ſeeing a *Dean*, in Latin, *Decanus*, hath his name from *Deca-ten*, over which number he is properly to be prepoſed. For, nothing more common, then to wean words from their infant and original ſenſe, and by cuſtome to extend them to a larger ſignification, as *Dean* afterwards plainly denoted a ſuperior over others, whether fewer then ten, as the ſix *Prebendaries* of *Rochester*; or moe, as the three and thirty of *Salisbury*. The *Dean* and eleven *Canons* were plentily provided for, each *Canon* having a *Manor*, and the *Dean* fix for his maintenance.

Seventeen
Manors con-
fir'd to
them by the
Confessor.

For in the *Charter of Confirmation* made by King *Edward the Confessor*, beſides *North-land* in *waltham* (now called, as I take it, *North-field*) where-with the *Monastery* was first endowed, theſe following *Lordships*, with all their appurtenances, are reckoned up.

1. <i>Passfield.</i>	5. <i>Suppedene.</i>	9. <i>Nefingan.</i>	13. <i>Wormeley.</i>
2. <i>Walde.</i>	6. <i>Alwertowne.</i>	10. <i>Brickindon.</i>	14. <i>Nichelwells.</i>
3. <i>Upminster.</i>	7. <i>Wodesford.</i>	11. <i>Melnhoo.</i>	15. <i>Hitchche.</i>
4. <i>Walthfare.</i>	8. <i>Lambehide.</i>	12. <i>Alichsea.</i>	16. <i>Lukendon.</i>

17. *West-wealtham.*

All

Anno
Dom. Anno
Regis1060. *Edw.*
*Con-
fessor.*
18.

1062 20.

Anno Regis Harl. 1. Anno Dom. 1066 All these the King granted unto them *cum Sacha & Socha, Tol and Team, &c.* free from all gelts and payments, in a most full and ample manner; *Witnes himself, Edith his Queen, Stigand Archiepiscopus Dorobornensis, Count Harold, and many other Bishops and Lords subcribing the same Charter.*

Afterward *Harold* usurpeth the *Crown*, but enjoyed it not a full year, kill'd in *Battle-fight*, by *King William the Conqueror*. Where either of their swords (if victorious) might have done the deed, though otherwife both their titles twisted together, could not make half a good claim to the *Crown*. *Githa*, Mother of *Harold*, and two religious men of this *Abby*, *Osegod* and *Ailric*, with their prayers and tears, hardly prevailed with the *Conquerour* (at first denying him burial, whose ambition had caused the death of so many) to have *Harold's* Corps (with his two Brethren, *Girth* and *Leofwin*, losing their lives in the same battle) to be entombed in *waltham Church*, of his foundation. He was buried, where now the Earl of *Carlile* his leaden Fountain in his *Garden*, then probably the end of the *Quire*, or rather some Eastern Chapel beyond it. His Tomb of plain, but rich gray *Marble*, with what seemeth a *Cross-Floree* (but much descanted on with art) upon the same, supported with *Pillarets*, one *Pedestal*, whereof I have in my house. As for his reported Epitaph, I purposely omit it, not so much because barbarous (scarce any better in that Age) but because not attested, to my apprehension, with sufficient Authority.

Harold Crowned, killed & buried at Waltham.

A Picture of King *Harold* in glass was lately to be seen in the *North*-window of the *Church*, till ten years since some barbarous hand beat it down under the notion of *Superstition*. Surely had such ignorant persons been imployed in the dayes of *Hezekiah*, to purge the *Temple* from the former *Idolatry*; under the pretence thereof, they would have rended off, the *Lilie-work* from the Pillars; and the *Lions*, *Oxen*, and *Cherubims* from the *Bases* of *Bras*. However, there is still a place called *Harold's-Park* in our *Parish*, by him so denominated. Let not therefore the *village* of *Harold* on the *North* side of *Ouse* neir *Bedford* (properly *Harewood*, or *Harelswood*, on vulgar ground-lets tradition) contest with *waltham* for this Kings interment.

Deforming Reformers.

The Re-foundation of WALTHAM-ABBY by HENRY the Second.

One will easily believe, that at the death of King *Harold*, *waltham Abby*, Founded by him, was in a twoon, and the *Canons* therein much disheartned. However, they had one help, which was this; that, *Edward the Confessor* was the confirmer of their Foundation, whose memory was not onely fresh and fair in all mens mindes (bearing a veneration to his supposed sanctity) but also King *William the Conquerour*, had the best of his bad titles by bequest of the *Crown* from this *Confessor*. So that in some sense *waltham-Abby* might humbly crave kindred of King *William*, both deriving their best being from one and the same person.

Waltham Canons in a sad condition.

Know Reader, that what ever hereafter I alledg touching the *Lands* and *Liberties* of *waltham* (if not otherwise attested by some Author in the margin) is by me faithfully transcribed out of *waltham Leidger-Book*, now in the possession of the Right Honourable, *JAMES Earl of Carlile*. This Book was collected by *Robert Fuller*, the last Abbot of *waltham*; who, though he could not keep his *Abby* from dissolution, did preserve the *Antiquities* thereof from oblivion. The Book (as appears by many inscriptions in the initial Text-letters) was made by himself, having as happy an hand in fair and fast writing, as some of his Sir-name since have been defective therein.

The industry of Rob. Fuller last Abbot of Waltham.

Not

Queen Maud
gives Waltham
Monks a Mill.

Queen Adelia-
ria the Tythes

King Steven
his bounty.

King Henry
dissolves the
Dean and
Canons at
Waltham.

Augustinians
substituted in
their room.

Rome-land in
Waltham.

Fitz-Aucher
feasted at Copt-
Hall.

Not long after the Conquest, *waltham-Abby* found good Benefactors, and considerable additions to their maintenance. For, *Maud*, the first Queen to King *Henry* the first, beftowed on them the Mill at *waltham*, which she had by exchange for *Trinity-Church* in *London*, which I take to be part of the *Trinity-Priory*, now called the *Dukes-place*.

Adelia, second wife to King *Henry* the first, being possessed of *waltham* as part of her Revenue, gave all the *Tythes* thereof, as well of her *Demesnes*, as all Tenants therein, to the Canons of *waltham*. Mean time how poorly was the *Priest* of the place provided for? Yea, a *glutton Monastery* in former ages, makes an *hungrie Ministrie* in our days. An *Abby* and a *Parsonage* unimproprie in the same place, are as inconsistent together, as *good woods* and an *Iron Mill*. Had not *Waltham Church* lately met with a *Noble Founder*, the *Minister* thereof must have kept moe *fasting-days*, then ever were put in the *Roman Calender*.

King *Stephen*, though he came a wrong way to the *Crown*, yet did all right to the *Monastery* of *waltham* (as who generally fought the good will of the Clergie to strengthen himself) and confirmed all their Lands, profits, and priviledges unto them.

King *Henry* the second utterly dissolved the foundation of *Dean* and eleven *Canons* at *waltham*. The debauchedness of their lives is rendred in his *Charter* as the occasion thereof, *Cum in ea Canonicis Clericis, minus religiosè & aequaliter vixissent, ita quòd infamia conversationis illorum multos scandalisasset*. Whether these were really, or onely reputed vicious, God knows, seeing all those must be guilty whom power is pleased to pronounce so. Sure it is, King *Henry* outed this *Dean* and *Canons*, and placed an *Abbot* and *Regular Augustinians* in their room, encreasing their number to twenty four. And because (to use the Kings own words) it was fit that *Christ his Spouse should have a new dower*, he not onely confirmed to this *Monastery* the *primitive patrimony*, mentioned in the *Confessors Charter*, *cum peciis terræ, with many pieces of land, and tenements, which their Benefactors since bestowed upon them*; but also conferred the rich *Manors* of *Sewardstone*, and *Eppings* on this *Monastery*.

The whole *Charter* of King *Henry* is too long to transcribe, but some passages therein must not be omitted. First, the King had the consent of Pope *Alexander*, for the suppression of these *Canons*; the rather moved thereunto, *quia predictis Canonicis sufficienter provisum fuit, because the aforesaid expelled Canons had sufficient provision made for them*. For, grant them never so scandalous, this was to add scandal to scandal, to thrust them out of house and home, without any means or maintenance. Secondly, this *Charter* presents us with the ancient liberties of *waltham-Church*, that, *Semper fuit Regalis Capella ex primitiva sui fundatione, nulli Archiepiscopo vel Episcopo, sed tantum Ecclesiae Romanae & Regiae dispositioni subjecta*. And, though since Reformation, the Church hath been subjected to the Arch-Bishops jurisdiction (as succeeding to the Royal power) and sometimes (with grumbling and reluctance) to the Episcopal power, yet it never as yet owned an Arch-Deacon, or appeared at his *Visitation*.

The metioning of the consent of Pope *Alexander* to the suppression of *waltham Dean* and *Canons*, and substituting *Augustinians* in their room, mindeth me of a spacious place in this Town, at the entrance of the *Abby*, built about with houses, called *Rome-land*, as (*Peter-pence* were termed *Rome-scot*) at this day. It is generally believed, that the rents thereof peculiarly belonged to the Church of *Rome*. Thus the Pope would not be so bad a carver, as to cut all away to others, and reserve no corner to himself.

King *Richard* the first (though generally not too loving to the Clergie) amply confirmed his Fathers Foundation, and gave Lands to *Richard Fitz-Aucher* in this Parish, to hold them in Fee, and hereditarily of the Church of *waltham-Holy-Cross*. This *Fitz-Aucher* fixed himself at *Copt-Hall*, a stately house in the Parish. Whether so called contractedly, *quasi Cobbing-Hall*, from

Anno
Dom. 1102
Anno
Regis
Hen. I
3.

1130 31.

1135 Steph.
1:

1155 Hen. 2
2.

1189 Ric. I
1.

Anno
Regis
Hen. 3
10.
1245

from Cobbing, a rivolet running not far off, or from two ancient and essential Turrets of that house, which are coped and covered with Lead: or from (in my minde most probable) an high and sharp Hill (thus Copeland so called in Cumberlaz) whereon the houle is founded.

In or about this Kings Reign, *Hugh Nevil*, with the consent of *Jone* his wife, and *John* his son, bestowed the Manor of *Thorndon* on the Monastery of *waltham*, of whom largely before.

Hugh Nevil
a bountiful
benefactor.

King *Henry* the third, to spare Court-keeping, came often and lay long at *Abbies*; so that *waltham* (the nearest mitred Abby to *London*) had much of his company. Being a *Religious* Prince, great were his desires, but with all *necessitous*, small his deeds in endowing Churches. However, what he wanted in giving himself, he supplied in confirming the gifts of others. And finding it the cheapest way of benefaction, to give liberties then lands, he bestowed on *waltham* a weekly *Market* and a *Faire* (so called à feriando, from peoples *playing* there) to last seven dayes; which now is divided into two, but of shorter continuance, the one on the third day of *May*, the *Intention*, the other on the fourteenth of *September*, the *Exaltation of the Cross*.

We now have a *Market* on *Tuesday*, but cannot boast of much trading therein. Indeed there is plenty of *Fleth*, but little *Corn* brought thither: and *Bread* is the *staff*, as of a man, so of a *Market*. Nor let us impute the thinnes of *Chapmen* in *Summer* to *Husbandmens* having no leasure, as busied in *tillage*, *Hay*, or *harvest*: or in *Winter* to their *having no pleasure* to repair thither in so deep and dirty wayes, seeing the plain truth is, no *underwood* can thrive neer the droppings of so great an *Oke*, the vicinity of *London*. The *golden Market* in *Leaden-Hall*, makes *leaden Markets* in all the Townes thereabouts.

*Waltham Mar-
ket.*

30. 1245

In the first year that *Simon* was made *Abbot* (which by exactest proportion we collect to be about the thirtieth year of King *Henry* the third) the * men of *waltham* came into the *Marsh*, which the *Abbot* and his *Covent* formerly enjoyed, as several to themselves, killed four *Mares*, worth fourty shillings *sterling* at least, and drove away all the rest. The *Abbot* was politickly pleased, for the present not to take notice thereof. The next year somme men of *waltham* went to the *Abbot*, the *Thursday* before *Easter*, in the name of the whole *Village*, and demanded of him to remove his *Mares* and *Colts* out of the *Marsh*. This the *Abbot* refused to do, adding withal, that if his *Bailiffs* had placed his *Cattle* otherwhere then they ought, they might do well to have it amended, yet so, as to defer the matter till *Tuesday* after *Easter*.

Broils be-
twixt the Ab-
bot and the
Townsmen
about Com-
mons.

* M. S. of Ed-
ward Stacy,
written (as
appears by
character)
140 years
since, fol. 42.

31. 1246

On that *Tuesday*, *Richard*, Brother to the King, Duke of *Cornwall*, came to *waltham*, at what time both the men and women of the *Town* repaired to the gate of the *Abby*, to receive the *Abbots* final answer. He told them that he could not speak with them for the present, as providing himself for a long journey into *Lincoln-shire*, there to visit the *Justices itinerant*; but by his *Prior* and other *Canons*, he desired them to be patient till his return, when he would mend what was to be mended. Not satisfied therewith, and neither respecting the *spiritual holiness* of the *Abbot*, nor *temporal greatness* of the *Duke*, railed at and reviled him. Then into the pasture they go, and, in driving out the *Abbots Mares* and *Colts*, drowned three worth twenty shillings, spoilted ten moe, to the value of ten marks, and beat their keepers who resifted them, even to the shedding of bloud.

The sturdiness
of the
Townsmen.

But, after the *Abbot* returned from *Lincoln-shire*, the *Townsmen*, fearing they should be trounced for their *riot*, desired a *Love-day*, submitted themselves unto him, and profered to pay him damage. But next day, when the performance of these promises were expected, away went the *Waltham-men*, with their *wives* and *children*, to the *King* to *London*, inraging him as much as in them lay, against the *Abbot*, accusing him that he would

The most
guilie first
accuse.

disinherit them of their right, bring up new customes, take away their *pastures*, and (to use their own words) eat them up to the bones ; and that he had wounded and abused some of them, who stood defending their own rights. Which false report was believed of many, to the great disgrace of the *Convent of Waltham*.

The Abbot comes off conqueror.

The *Abbot* would not put up so great a wrong, but, having Episcopal power in himself, proceeded to the Excommunication of the Rebellious *Walthamites*. But the *Townsmen* went another way to work, namely, to defend their right by the *Common Laws* of the Realm. Whereupon *Stephen Fitz-Bennet*, *Simon of the Wood*, *William Theyden*, and *Ralph of the Bridge*, in the name of all the rest, implead the *Abbot* for appropriating their *Commons* to himself. But in fine (after many croſſe pleadings here too long to relate) the *Abbot* so acquitted himself, that he made both his own *right* and the *Townsmens* riot to appear : who at last at the *Kings-Bench* were glad to confess that they had done evil, and were amerced twenty Marks to the *Abbot*, which he not only remitted unto them, but also on their submission aſſoiled them from the *Excommunication*.

The ſuite betwixt the Abbot of *Waltham* and the Lord of *Cheſthunt*.

* In his ſhort Survey of *Hertfordshire*.

The brawls betwixt the *Abbot* and *Townsmen* of *Waltham* were no sooner ended, but far fiercer began betwixt the ſaid *Abbot* and the Lord of *Cheſthunt*, on the like occasion. This *Cheſthunt* is a large Parish in *Hertfordshire*, confining on the *West* of *Waltham*, ſo called ſaiſt * *Norden*, *quasi Caſtanetum*, of *Cheſnut-trees*, though now, I believe, one hardly appears in the whole Lordship. In this ſuite,

Anno
Dom.
1246
Anno
Regis
Hen.3
31.

1248 33.

Plaintiff.

Peter, Duke of *Savoy*, the Kings dear Uncle, (firſt founder, I take it, of the *Savoy* in *London*) on whom the King conferred many *Lordships*, and *Cheſthunt* a-mongſt the rest.

Solicitor.

Adam de Alverton.

Judges.

Ralph Fitz-Nicolas, *John of Lexington*, *Pau- lin Peyner Seneschal*, *Henry of Bath*, *Jeremy of Caxton*, *Henry de Bretton*.

Defendant.

Simon, the *Abbot*, and the *Co- vent of Waltham*.

The Case.

The *Plaintiff* endeavoured to prove, that the stream of *Ley*, (called the *Kings-Stream*) dividing *Hertfordshire* from *Essex*, ran thorow the Town of *Waltham*, all the land *West* thereof belonging to the Manor of *Cheſthunt*. This was denied by the *Defendant*, maintaining that *Small-Ley-stream*, running wel-nigh half a mile *West* of *Waltham*, parted the Counties, all the interjacent meadows pertained to *Waltham*.

A like not the ſame.

Peruſing the names of theſe the *Kings Justices* at *Westminster*, who would not ſuſpect, but that this *Henry of Bath* was *Bishop* of that ſee ? conſidering how many *Clergy-men* in that age, were imploied in places of *Judicature*. But the ſuſpicion is cauſleſs, finding none of that name in the *Episcopal Catalogue*. Others in like manner may apprehend, that *Bretton*, here mentioned, was that *Learned Lawyer* (afterwards *Bishop of Hereford*) who wrote the * *Book De Juriis Anglicanis*, and who flouriſhed in the latter end of the Reign of this King *Henry the third*. But his name being *John*, not *Henry*, diſcovereth him a diſſerent person.

Not long after, this ſuite was finally determined, and *Peter Duke of Savoy* remiſed and quit-claimed from him and his Heirs, to the ſaid *Abbot* and his

* See *Godwin* in his *Bishops of Hereford*.

Anno Regis	Anno Dom.	his Successors, the right and claim he had to ask in the same Meadows and Marshes of the said Abbot. This is called in the <i>Instrument finalis concordia</i> , though it proved neither final, nor a concord. For, soon after this <i>patent</i> , a cure broke out again, and the matter was in variance and undetermined betwixt Robert, the last Abbot, and the Lord of Chepstow, when the Abby was dissolved.
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Many *accessions* (besides those common *prolongers* of all *sutes*, namely the heat of mens anger, and the *bellows* of instruments, gaining by Law) did concur to lengthen this *cause*.

1. The *considerableness* and concernment of the thing controverted, being a large and rich portion of ground.
2. The *difficulty* of the *cause*, about the *chanels* of that *River*, which, *Proteus*-like, in several Ages hath appeared in fundry formes, disguised by derivations on different occasions.
3. The *greatnes* of the *Clients*; *Chesthurt Lordship* being always in the hand of some potent person, and the Corporation of *Waltham Covent* able to wage *Law* with him.

Hence hath this *sute* been as *long-liv'd* as any in *England*, (not excepting that in * *Glocester-shire*, betwixt the posterity of *Vice-Count Lisle*, and the *Lord Barkley*;) seeing very lately (if not at this day) there were some suites about our bounds; *Waltham* Meadows being very rich in *grafts* and *hay*, but too fruitful in contentions.

* Cambden in
Gloucester-
shire,

For mine own part, that wound which I cannot heal, I will not widen :
and, seeing I may say with the *Poet*,

I will not turn, of an *unpartial Historian*, an *engaged person*, who as a *neighbour* wish well to *Chesthurt*, as a *Parishioner* better to *Waltham*; as a *Christian*, best to both. And therefore so much for *matter of fact*, in our *Records* and *Lei-ger-books*, leaving all matters of *right* for others to decide.

Mean time, whilst the *Abbot* and *Monks* of *Waltham*, were vexed with the *men* of *Chesthurt*, they found more favour (if publick fame belies them not) from some *loving women* in that Parish, I mean the *Holy Sisters* in *Chesthurt-Nunnery*, whose *Houfe* (when ever Founded) I finde some ten years since thus confirmed by *Royal Authority*.

Henricus Rex Anglie, Dominus Hybernie, Dux Normanie, Aquitanie, & Comes Andegavie &c. Shestrehunt Moniales totam terram Dom. teneant cum pertinentiis suisq; Canonicis de Caibele &c. quos amoveri fecimus. Datum apud West. xj. Aug. Anno Regni nostri xxiiii.

**Chestnut
Nunney
Founded.**

But this subject begins to swell beyond the bounds intended unto it, lest therefore what we intended but a *Treat* should swell to a *Tome*, we will here descend to matters of later date.

Only be it premised, that some years before the *Dissolution*, Robert the last *Abbot* of *Walham*, passed over the fair seat of *Copt-Hall*, unto King *Henry the eighth*. Thus as the *Castor*, when pursued by the *Hunter*, to make his escape is reported to bite off his own *stones*, (as the main treasure sought af-

Capt. Hall
past to King
Hen. 8.

ter) and so saves his *life* by losing a *limb*: So this *Abbot* politickly parted with that stately *Mansion*, in hope thereby to prelverve the rest of his *revenues*. However all would not do, (so impossible it is to *save*, what is design'd to *ruine*) and few years after, the *Abby*, with the large *Lands* thereof, were seized on by the *King*, and for some Moneths, *He* alone stood possessed thereof.

Anno
Dom. Anno
Regis

*The Extraction, Charter, Death and Issue of Sir Anthony
Dennie, on whom King Henry the Eighth
bestowed WALTHAM-ABBY.*

*A Lease of
Waltham-Ab-
by given to
Sir Anthony
Dennie.*

*John Denny
the great
fould er in
France.*

*a Speed, or ra-
ther Sir Rob.
Coton in
Huntingdon-
shire.*

*Edm. Denny
Baron of the
Exchequer.*

*Anthony Denny
his high com-
mendations.*

*b Aschan
Commend.
Epist. fol. 210.
Idem. fol. 208.*

*His Epitaph
made by the
Lord Howard.*

AT the *Dissolution*, King *Henry* bestowed the *site* of this *Abby*, with many large and rich *Lands* belonging thereunto, on *Sr Anthony Dennie*, for the terme of Thirty one years. Let us a little enquire into his extraction and descent.

I finde the name very Ancient at ^a *Chesterton* in *Huntington-shire*, where the Heir-general was long since married, to the worshipful and Ancient Family of the *Bevils*. It seems, a branch of the Male-line afterwards fixed in *Hertford-shire*; Whereof *John Denny*, Esquire, valiantly served *Henry* the fifth in *France*, where he was slain, and buried with *Thomas*, his second Son, in *S^t Dions* his *Chappel*; their interment in so noble a place speaking their worthy performances. In the Reign of *Queen Mary*, a Frier shewed their *Tombes* to *S^r Matthew Carew*, together with their *Coates* and *differences*. *Henry*, eldest Son of this *John Denny*, begat *William Denny* of *Chesthurt* in *Hertford-shire*, which *William* was *High Sheriff* of the County in the year 1480. leaving *Edmond Denny* to inherit his *estate*.

Edmond Denny was one of the *Barons* of the *Exchequer*, in credit and favour with *King Edward* the Fourth, and *Henry* the Seventh. He Married *Mary*, the Daughter and Heir of *Robert Troutbeck* Esquire, on whom he begat *Thomas Denny*, from whom the *Dennies* in *Norfolk* are descended.

Anthony Denny, second Son to *Baron Denny*, was Knighted by *King Henry* the Eighth, made *Gentleman* of his *Bed-chamber*, *Privy-Councillour*, and one of his *Executors*. I cannot say he was bred any great Scholar, but finde him a *Mecenas*, and *grand favourer* of Learned men. For, when the School of ^b *Sedbury* in the *North*, belonging to *S^t Johns* in *Cambridg*, was run to *ruine*, the *Lands* thereof being sold and embezeled, *S^r Anthony* procured the reparation of the *Schoole*, and restitution of their means, firmly setting them to prevent future alienation. Hear what character ^c *M^r Aschan* gives of him; *Religio, Doctrina, Respublica, omnes curas tuas sic occupant, ut extra has tres res nullum tempus consumas*; *Religion, Learning, Common-wealth, so employ all thy cares, that besides these three things you spend no other time*. Let then the enemies (if any) of his memory abate of this character to what proportion they please (pretending it but the *Orators Rhetorical Hyperbole*) the very remainder thereof, which their malice must leave, will be sufficient to speak *S^r Anthony* a worthy and meriting Gentleman.

I finde an excellent Epitaph made on him by one the *Learnedst of Noble-men*, and *Noblest of Learned men* in his age, *viz.* *Henry Howard*, *Earl of Surrey*, and eldest Son to the *Duke of Norfolk*, worthy the Reader his perusal.

Upon

Anno Regis

Anno Dom.

Upon the Death of Sir Anthony a Denny.

*Death, and the King, did, as it were, contend,
Which of them two bare Denny greatest love :
The King, to shew his love gan far extend,
Did him advance his betters far above.*

*Neer place, much wealth, great honour eke him gave,
To make it known what power Princes have.*

*But when Death came with his triumphant gift,
From worldly cark he quit his wearied ghost
Free from the corps, and straight to Heaven it lift.
Now deem that can, who did for Denny most.*

*The King gave wealth, but fading and unsure :
Death brought him bliss that ever shall endure.*

Know Reader, that this Lord made this *Epitaph* by a Poetical *Prolepsis* ; otherwise, at the reading thereof who would not conceive, that the *Author* surviv'd the *subject of his Poem* ? Whereas indeed this Lord died (beheaded 1546.) in the Reign of King *Henry the Eighth*, whom *S^r Anthony* out-lived, being one of the Executors of his Will. Nor was it the worst piece of service he performed to his Master, when (all other Courtiers declining the employment) he truly acquainted him with his dying-condition, to dispose of his soul for another world.

S^r Anthony died about the second of *Edward the sixth*, Dame *Joan* his Wife, surviving him. Daughter she was to *S^r Philip Champenoon of Modbury* in *Devon-shire* : a Lady of great beauty and parts, a favourer of the Reformed Religion when the times were most dangerous. She sent eight shillings by her man, in a *Violet coat*, to *Anne b Aschough* when imprisoned in the *Counter* ; a small sum, yet a great gift, so hazardous it was to help any in her condition. This Lady *Joan* bought the *Reversion in Fee of Waltham*, from King *Edward the Sixth*, paying three thousand and hundred pounds for the same, purchasing therewith *large priviledges in Waltham-Forest*, as by the *Letters Patents* doth appear. She bare two Sons to *S^r Anthony*, *Henry Denny*, Esquire, of whom hereafter : the second *S^r Edward*, who, by Gods blessing, Queen *Elizabeths* bounty, and his own valour, atchieved a fair estate in the County of *Kerry in Ireland*, which at this day is (if any thing in that woful *war-wasted Countrey* can be) enjoyed by his great Grandchild, *Arthur Denny Esq; of Tralleigh*.

a *Weavers Fu-
neral Monu-
ments*, p. 852.

His issue by
Dame Joan
his wife.

b *Fox, Acts &
Monuments*,
fol. 1239.

The condition of Waltham Church from the Dissolution of the Abby, untill the Death of King HENRY the Eighth.

Having the perusal of the *Church-Wardens* accounts, wherein their Ancient expences and receipts are exactly taken, fairly written, and carefully kept, I shall select thence some memorable Items, to acquaint us with the *general devotion* of those dayes.

Know

Know then, there were six *Ordinary Obits* which the *Church-wardens* did annually ditcharge, *viz.*

		Anno Dom.	Anno Regis
	<i>Thomas Smith, and Joan his wife, on the sixteenth of January.</i>		
	<i>Thomas Friend, Joan and Joan his wives, on the sixteenth of February.</i>		
For	<i>Robert Peest and Joan his wife, on the tenth of April.</i>		
	<i>Thomas Towers and Katharine his wife, the six and twentieth of April.</i>		
	<i>John Breges and Agnes his wife, the one and thirtieth of May.</i>		
	<i>Thomas Turner and Christian his wife, the twentieth day of December.</i>		

The charge of an *Obit* was two shillings and two pence; and, if any be curious to have the particulars thereof, it was thus expended. To the *Parish-Priest* four pence; to our *Ladies-Priest* three pence; to the *Charnel-Priest* three pence; to the two *Cierks* four pence; to the *Children* (thete I conceive *Choristers*) three pence; to the *Sexion* two pence; to the *Bell-man* two pence; for two *Tapers* two pence; for *Oblation* two pence. Oh the reasonable rates at *Waltham*! two shillings two pence for an *Obit*, the price whereof in *Saint Pauls in London* was fourty shillings. For (forlooth) the higher the *Church*, the holier the *service*, the dearer the *price*, though he had given too much that had given but thanks for such vanities.

To detray the expences of these *Obits*, the parties prayed for, or their Executors, left *Lands, Houses or Stock*, to the *Church-Wardens*. *Thomas Smith* bequeathed a *Tenement* in the *Corn-Market*, and others gave *Lands* in *Upshire*, called *Pater-noster-Hills*; others ground elsewhere, beides a stock of eighteen *Cows*, which the *wardens* let out yearly to farm for eighteen shillings, making up their yearly accounts at the *Feast of Michael* the *Arch-Angel*, out of which we have excerpted the following remarkable particulars.

Anno 1542. the 34th of HENRY the 8th.

Imprimis. For watching the *Sepulchre*, a groat.] This constantly returns in every yearly account, though what meant thereby, I know not. I could suspect some *Ceremony* on *Easter-eve*, (in imitation of the *Souldiers* watching *Christs grave*) but am loath to charge that *Age* with more superstitution then it was clearly guilty of.

Item, Paid to the *Ringers* at the coming of the *Kings Grace*, six pence.] Yet *waltham Bells* told no tales every time *King Henry* came hither, having a small house in *Rome-land* to which he is said oft privately to retire, for his pleasure.

Item, Paid unto two *men of Law* for their counsel about the *Church-leafes*, six shillings eight pence.

Item, Paid the *Attorney* for his *Fee*, twenty pence.

Item, Paid for Ringing at the *Prince* his coming, a penny.

Anno 1543. the 35th of HENRY the 8th.

Imprimis, Received of the *Executors* of *Sr Robert Fuller*, given by the said *Sr Robert* to the *Church*, ten pounds.

How is this man degraded from the *Right Honourable the Lord Abbot of Waltham* (the last in that place) to become a poor *Sr Robert*, the title of the meanest Priest in that age. Yet such his charity in his poverty, that, besides

Anno
Regis

Anno
Dom.

sides this legacy, he bequeathed to the Church a Chalice ^a silver and gilt, which they afterwards sold for seven pounds.

^a The Church-wardens ac-
count, Anno
1556.

Anno 1544. the 36. of HENRY the 8th.

Imprimis, Received of *Adam Tanner* the overplus of the money which was gathered for the *purchase* of the Bells, two pound four shillings and eleven pence.] It seems the Kings Officers sold, and the Parish then purchased the five Bells being great and tunable (who, as they gave bountifully, to I presume they bought reasonably) and the surpluage of the money was delivered.

Item, Received of *Richard Tanner* for eight *Stoles*, three shillings.] A *Stole* was a *vestment* which the Priest used. Surely these were much worn, and very *rags* of *Popery*, as sold for four pence half penny a piece. It seems the Church-wardens were not so charitable to give away, nor so superstitious to burn, but so thrifty as to make profit by sale of these decayed vestments.

Item, Paid for mending the hand-bell, two pence.] This was not fixed as the rest in any place of Church or Steeple, but (being a *Diminutive* of the *Saints-bell*) was carried in the Sextons hands at the circumgeftation of the Sacrament, the visitation of the sick, and such like occasions.

Item, Paid to *Philip Wright*, Carpenter, for making a frame in the *Bell-frey*, eighteen shillings four pence.] The Bells being bought by the Parishioners, were taken down out of the decayed Steeple, and we shall afterwards see what became thereof. Mean time a *timber-frame* was made (which the aged of the last generation easily remembred) in the *South-East* end of the *Church-yard*, where now two Yew-trees stand, and a shift made for some years to hang the *Bells* thereon.

Anno 1546. the 38. of HENRY the 8th.

Item, For *claps* to hold up the *Banners* in the body of the *Church*, eight pence.] By these, I understand, not *Pennons* with *Arms* hanging over the Graves of interred Gentlemen, but rather some superstitious *streamers*, usually carried about in *Procession*.

Item, Paid to *John Boston* for mending the *Organs*, twentie pence.

The state of Waltham Church during the Reign of King EDWAD the Sixth.

Old things are passed away, behold all things now are become new. Superstition by degrees being banished out of the Church, we hear no more of *prayers* and *Masses* for the dead. Every *Obit* now had its own *Obit*, and fully expired, the Lands formerly given thereunto being employed to more charitable uses. But let us select some particulars of the Church-wardens accounts in this Kings dayes.

Anno 1549. the 3^d. of EDWARD the Sixth.

Imprimis, Sold the *Silver plate* which was on the *desk* in the *Charnel*, weighing five ounces for twenty five shillings.] Gues the gallantry of our *Church*

a Fox Acts & Mon. in the examination of Tho. Hawks, pag. 1590.

Church by this (presuming all the rest in proportionable equipage) when the deck, whereon the Priest read, was inlaid with plate of silver.

Item, Sold a rod of iron which the curtain run upon before the Rood, nine pence.] The Rood was an Image of Christ on the Cross, made generally of wood, and erected in a loft for that purpose, just over the passage out of the Church into the Chancel. And, wot you what spiritual mysterie was couched in this position thereof? The Church (forsooth) typified the Church Militant, the Chancel represents the Church Triumphant; and all, who will pass out of the former into the latter, must go under the Rood-loft; that is, carry the cross and be acquainted with affliction. I add this the rather, because *a Harpsfield*, that great Scholar (who might be presumed knowing in his own art of Superstition) confesseth himself ignorant of the reason of the Rood-situation.

Item, Sold so much wax as amounted to twenty six shillings.] So thrifty the Wardens, that they bought not candles and tapers ready made, but bought the wax at the best hand, and payed poor people for the making of them. Now they sold their Magazine of wax as useless. Under the Reformation more light and fewer candles.

Item, Paid for half of the Book called Paraphrase, five shillings.] By the seventh Injunction of King Edward, each Parish was to procure the Paraphrase of Erasmus, namely, the first part thereof on the Gospels, and the same to be set up in some convenient place in the Church.

Item, Spent in the Visitation at Chelmsford amongst the Wardens and other honest men, fourteen shillings four pence.] A round summe I assure you in those dayes. This was the first Visitation (kept by Nicholas Ridley newly Bishop of London) whereat Waltham-Wardens ever appeared out of their own Town, whose Abbot formerly had Episcopal Jurisdiction.

Anno 1551 the 5th of EDWARD the 6th.

Imprimis, Received for a Knell of a servant to the Lady Mary her Grace, ten pence.] Copt-Hall in this Parish being then in the Crown, the Lady (afterwards Queen) Mary, came thither sometimes to take the air probably, during whose residence there this her servant died.

Item, Lost forty six shillings by reason of the fall of money by Proclamation.] King Henry much debased the English Coyn, to his own gain and the Lands loss (if Sovereigns may be said to get by the damage of their Subjects) yet all would not do to pay his debts. His Son Edward endeavoured to reduce the Coyn to its true standard, decrying bad money by his Proclamation, to the intrinsic value thereof. But, prevented by death, he effected not this difficult design (Adultery in Men, and Adulterateness in Money, both hardly reclaimed) which was afterwards compleated by the care of Queen Elizabeth.

Item, Received for two hundred seventy one ounces of Plate, sold at several times for the best advantage, sixtie seven pound fourteen shillings and nine pence.] Now was the Brotherhood in the Church dissolved, consisting as formerly of three Priests, three Choristers, and two Sextons; and the rich plate belonging to them was sold for the good of the Parish. It may seem strange the Kings Commissioners deputed for that purpose, seised not on it, from whose hands Waltham found some favour (befriended by the Lord Rich their Country-man) the rather because of their intentions to build their decaied Steeple.

Church-

Church-alterations in the Reign of Queen MARY.

NEW Lady new Laws. Now strange the Metamorphosis in *Waltham*. Condemn not this our **Como-graphic**, or description of a *Country-Town*, as too low and narrow a subject, seeing in some sort the Historie of *Waltham-Church* is the *Church-History of England*, all Parishes in that age being infected alike with superstition. Nor intend I hereby to renew the memorie of Idolatrie, but to revive our gratitude to God for the abolishing thereof, whose numerous trinkets here ensue.

anno 1554. Mariæ primo.

Imprimis, For a Cross with a foot copper and gilt, twentie five shillings.

Item, For a *Cross-staff copper and gilt*, nine shillings and four pence.

Item, For a *Pax* copper and gilt, five shillings.] Greet one another, saith St. ² Paul, with an holy kiss, on which words of the Apostle the *Pax* had its original. This Ceremony performed in the *Primitive times*, and *Eastern Countries*, was afterwards (to prevent wantonness, & to make the more expedition) commuted into a new custome, *viz.* A piece of wood, or metall (with Christ's picture thereon) was made, and solemnly tendred to all people to kiss. This was called the *Pax*, or *Peace*, to shew the unity and amity of all there assembled; who (though not immediately) by the Proxie of the *Pax* kissed one another.

a 1 Cor 16.20

Item, For a pair of *Censers copper and gilt*, nine shillings and eight pence.] These were pots in the which frankincense was burned, perfuming the Church during Divine Service.

Item, For a Stock of bras for the Holy-water, seven shillings.] Which by the Canon must be of marble, or metall, and in no case of brick, ^b lest the sacred liquor be suck'd up by the spunginess thereof.

em, For a Chrismatory of pewter, three shillings four pence.] This was a vessel in which the consecrated oyl, used in Baptisme, Confirmation, and Extreme Unction, was deposited.

Item, For a yard of silver Sarcenet for a cloth for the Sacrament; seven shillings eight pence.] Here some Silkeman or Mercer must satisfie us what this was. The price seems too low for Sarcenet inwoven with silver, and too high for plain Sarcenet of a silver colour.

Item, For a *Pix of Pewter*, two shillings.] This was a *Box* wherein the *Host*, or *consecrated wafer*, was put and preserved.

Item, For *Mary* and *John* that stand in the *Rood-loft*, twenty six shillings eight pence.] *Christ* *on the Cross* *saw his Mother, and the Disciple whom he loved standing by.* In a pish imitation whereof the *Rood* (when perfectly made with all the appurtenances thereof) was attended with these two images.

Item, For washing eleven Aubes and as many Head-clothes, six pence.] An Aube, or Albe, was a Priest's garment of white linen down to their feet, girded about his middle. The thin matter denoted simplicity; colour, purity; length, (deep & Divisible) perseverance: and the cincture thereof signified the person wearing it prompt and prepared for God's service. Their head-clothes were like our Sergeants' Coifes, but close, and not turned up.

Item, For watching the Sepulchre, eight pence;] Thus the price of that service (but a groat in King Henries dayes) was doubled. However, though Popery was restored to its kinde, yet was it not re-estated in its former degree,

b Dürantus de
Ritibus Eccles.
num. 6. pag.
173.

c John 19.26;
&c.

d Durrantus de
Ritibus Eccles
num. 9. pag.
316.

in the short Reign of Queen *Mary*, for we finde no mention of the former six *Obits* anniverlarily performed, the lands for whose maintenance were alienated in the Reign of King *Edward*, and the Vicar of the Parish not so charitable as to celebrate these *Obits* gratis without any reward for the same.

Item, For a Processeioner, and a Manual, twenty pence.

Item, For a Corporas-cloth, twelve pence.] This was a linen cloth laid over or under the *consecrated Host*.

Item, To the Apparitor for the Bishops Book of Articles at the Visitation, six pence.] This Bishop was bloody *Bonner*, that corpulent Tyrant, full (as one said) of guts and empty of bowels; who visited his Diocels before he was sick, and made it sick with his Visitation. His Articles were in number thirty seven, and *John a Bale* wrote a book against them. The Bishops chief care herein was the setting up of compleat *Roods*, commonly called (but when without his ear-reach) *Bonners Block-almightie*. If any refused to provide such blocks for him, let them expect he would procure fagots for them.

a Fox Acts & Mon. pag. 1474.

Anno 1556. Marie tertio.

Imprimis, For coles to undermine a piece of the Steeple which stood after the first fall, two shillings.] This Steeple formerly stood in the middle (now *East* end) of the Church; and, being ruined past possibilitie of repair, fell down of it self, onely a remaining part was blown up by underminers. How quickly can a few destroy what required the age and industry of many in long time to raise and advance?

It soundeth not a little to the praise of this Parish, that neither burthen-some nor beholding to the Vicinage for a collection, they re-built the Steeple at the *West* end of the Church, on their own proper cost, enabled thereunto, partly by their stock in the Church-box, arising from the sale (as is aforesaid) of the goods of the Brotherhood, and partly by the voluntary contribution of the Parishioners. This *Tower-Steeple* is eighty six foot high from the *foundation* to the *battlements*, each ^b foot whereof (besides the materials preprovided) costing thirty three shillings four pence the building. Three years passed from the founding to the finishing thereof (every years work discernable by the discolouration of the stones) and the Parish was forced, for the perfecting of the building, to sell their Bells, hanging before in a wooden frame in the Church-yard; so that *waltham*, which formerly had *Steeple-less-Bells*, now had for some years *a Bell-less-Steeple*.

b The thirty three foot on the top (difficulty & danger of climbing made it the dearer) cost fourty shillings a foot, as appeareth by the Church-wardens accounts, Anno 1563.

The condition of the Church from the beginning of Queen ELIZABETH, to this day.

IN eleven full years, *viz.* from the last of King *Henry the Eighth*, *Anno 1547.* till the first of Queen *Elizabeth*, *1558.* this Church found four changes in Religion; *Papist*, and *Protestant*; *Papist*, and *Protestant* again. The last turn will appear by the *Wardens* following accounts.

Anno 1558. Elizabetha primo.

Imprimis, For the taking down of the *Rood-loft*, three shillings two pence.] If then, there living and able, I hope I should have lent an helping hand to so good a work, as now I bestow my prayers, that the like may never in *England* be let up again.

Item, Received for a suite of *Vestments*, being of *blew velvet*, and another suite of *Damask*, and an *Altar-cloth*, four pound.

Item, For three *Corporasses*, whereof two *white silk*, and one *blew velvet*, two pound thirteen shillings four pence.

Item, For two suits of *Vestments*, and an *Altar-cloth*, three pound.] Now was the superstitious *Ward-robe* dispersed, and that (no doubt) sold for shillings which cost pounds. They were beheld as the *garments spotted with sin*, and therefore the less pity to part with them. But see what followeth.

Anno 1562. Elizabetha quinto.

Item, For a cloth of *Buckeram* for the *Communion-Table*, and the making, four shillings.] Having sold so much could they not afford a better *Carpet*? Is there no mean *berwixt* painting a face, and not washing it? He must have a fixt aim and strong hand, who hits decency, and misseth *gaudineſſ* and *ſluttery*. But there is a generation of people who over-do in the spirit of opposition: such conceive that a *trefſel* is good enough for Gods Table, and such a *Table*, *Covering* enough for it ſelf.

Item, For *Lattices* for the *Church-windows*, fifteen shillings.] Fain would I for the credit of our *Church* by *Lattices* understand *Cafements*, if the word would bear it. Yet surely it was not for covetousnes wholly to ſpare glaſing, but thriſt to preserve the glaſ, that these *Lattices* did fence them on the outside.

Item, Paid for a *Bay Nagge* given to Mr *Henry Denny* for the *Abby wall*, three pound seventeen shillings.] This *Nagge* was rather a thankful acknowledgment of Mr *Denny* his property, then a just valuation of what the *Pariſh* received from him, for it followeth.

Item, To *Labourers* which did undermine the ſaid *wall*, fourty five ſhillings nine pence.] What then may the *materials* of that *wall* be preſumed worth in themſelves? I conceive this was a *building* which ranged *East* beyond the old *ſteeple*, the demolishing whereof brought much profit to the *Pariſh*, whole *Wardens* for ſome years drove a great trade in the ſale of *Lead*, *Stone*, and *Timber*, all devoured in the *roofing*, *flooring*, and *finiſhing* of their *ſteeples*.

Anno 1563. Eliz. 6th.

Imprimis, For an old *houſe* in the old *Market-place*, thirteen pound six ſhillings eight pence.] This *Tenement* low-rented yielded annually nine ſhillings. Now the *Pariſh* ſold it, (and another houſe in *West-street*) outright, letting *Leaſes* also of their other *Church-lands* for twenty one years, ſuch bargains made a *Feaſt* for the preſent age, and a *Famine* for poſterity.

Item, For the old *timber* in the little *Veftiary* of *St Georges Chappel*, fifteen ſhillings.] In vain have I enquired for the ſituatiōn hereof, long ſince demolished, and no wonder if *St George his Chappel* cannot be found, when *St George* himſelf is affirmed by ſome as one never exiſtent, in *rerum natura*.

Item, Received of Mr *Denny* for one *Cope* of *Cloth of gold*, three pound six ſhillings eight pence.

c Philippus
Melandius in
Apologia Ar-
ticulo 21. con-
fessionis Augu-
ſtana.

Item, For two Altar-Cloaths of Velvet and silk, two pound.] It seemeth the Parish did not part with all their gallantry at once, but made several stakes thereof, and parcelled them out as their necessities did require.

Item, Received of Mr Tamworth twenty loads of timber ready hewed, which he gave to the Parish.] This Gentleman by his bounty to the Publick seems better known to God then to me, having neither heard nor read of any of his name living in or near to Waltham.

Item, For taking down the stairs in the Abby, seven shillings eight pence.] This was part of the Nag-purchase, whereby we collect that a large structure was by this bargain conveyed to the Parish.

^a Which is now but tiled

Item, For taking down the Lead from the Charnel-house, and covering the Steeple, eighteen shillings.] The Steeple was conceived above the Charnel-house as in height so in honour. Wherefore now the Lead taken from it ^b was translatled to the covering of the Steeple. Call this removing of this metal from one part of the Church to another, onely the borrowing of St Peter to lend to St Paul.

Item, For the Arch-Deacon man coming for a Record of all the Inhabitants of the Parish, four pence.] I know not on what Canon this was founded. It may be her Majestie in those dangerous times desired (not out of Pride, but necessary Policy) to know the number of her Subjects, and might enjoy the Arch-Deacons in their respective Visitations, to make this inquiry.

High time to knock off.

^a Cambdens Erit. in Essex.

James Earle of Carlile present owner of Waltham. Nicholas the most eminent Abbot of Waltham.

^b Hen de Knighton de evenib[us] Angl. lib. v. pag 2687.

John de Waltham. ^c Hen. Knighton ut prius. pag 2685. Roger Waltham a learned writer.

^d Bale de script. Brit. cent. 4 pag. 302.

Hugh Nevil buried in Waltham, ^e Mat. Paris in Ann. 1222. page 315. and also Robert Psalle lew.

But Day begins to dawn, and the light of our Age to appear, matters coming within the memory of many alive. We will therefore break off Waltham since affording no peculiar observables. Onely will add that St Edward (Grand-childe to St Anthony) Denny, was created by King James, ^a Baron of Waltham, and since made by King Charles, Earl of Norwich. A Noble person, who settled on the Curate of Waltham (to whom before a bare Stipend of Eight pound did belong) one hundred pound per annum, with some other considerable accommodations, tying good Land for the true performance thereof.

The Abby is now the Inheritance of this Earls Grand-childe, by Honora his daughter) James Hay Earl of Carlile, who Marred Margaret, Daughter to Francis, Earl of Bedford, by whom as yet he hath no Issue, for the continuance of whose happiness my prayers shall never be wanting.

The Reader may justly expect from me a Catalogue of all the Abbots of this Monastery. But to do it *falsly*, I dare not; *lamely*, I would not; *perfectly*, I cannot; and therefore must crave to be excused. Onely let me observe, that Nicholas, Abbot of Waltham was most triumphant in power, of any in his place; he flourished in the Reign of King Richard the second, and was ^b one of the fourteen Commissioners, chosen by Parliament, to examine the miscarriages in that Kings Reign since the death of his Grand-father.

Amongst the Natives of Waltham for States-men, John de Waltham bears away the bell. He was keeper of the Privy Seal in the Reign of King Richard the second, being the third in number, chosen amongst the fourteen Commissioners aforesaid, impowered to examine all misdemeanours of State. And now was not Waltham highly honoured with more then a single share, when amongst those fourteen, two were her Gremials, the forenamed Nicholas living in Waltham, and this John, having his name thence, because birth therein.

But amongst Scholars in our Town, Roger Waltham must not be forgotten, Canon of St Pauls in London, and a great favourite to Fulk Basset, Bishop thereof. He wrote many learned books, whereof two especially (one called ^d Compendium Morale, the other Imagines Oratorum) commend his parts and pains to posterity.

Pass we from those who were Born, to eminent persons Buried therein. Here we first meet with Hugh Nevil, a Minion of King Richard the first, he was Interred in Waltham Church, saith my ^e Author, in Nobili Sarcophago Mar moreo & insculpto, in a Noble Coffin of Marble engrav'd. If a Coffin be call'd Sarcophagus (from consuming the Corps) surely Sacrifledg may be named Sarcophago-

cephago-phagm, which at this day hath devoured that Coffin, and all belonging thereto.

We spoil all, if we forget, Robert Passelet, who was *Dominas fac totam*, in the middle, and *fac nbil*, towards the end of the Reigne of Henry the third. Some Parasites extolled him by allusion to his name, *Pass-le-eau*, (that is, *passing the pure water*) the Wits of those dayes thus descanting upon him;

Est aqua tems, & est aqua dulcis, & est aqua clara;
Tu præcellis aquam, nam leni lenior es tu;
Dulci dulcior es tu, clara clarior es tu;
Mente quidem lenis, re dulcis, sanguine clarus.

*f Collect. of
Mr. Camb. M.
S. in Sr. Tho.
Cottons Libr.
iry.*

*& Matt. Paris
Anno. 1252.
A heap of
difficulties
cast together.*

But such who flattered him the fastest, whilst in favour, mocked him the most in misery, and at last he died in his own *House* in *Waltham*, and was 8 buried in the *Abby-Church* therein.

And now because we have so often cited *Matthew Paris*, I never met with more difficulties in six lines, then what I finde in him; which because nearly relating to this present subject, I thought fit to exemplifie.

MATTHEW PARIS in Anno 1242. p. 595.

*Eodemq; Anno, videlicet in crastino
Sti Michaelis dedicata est Ecclesia con-
ventualis Canonorum de Waltham,
ab Episcopo Norwicensi Willielmo, solem-
niter valde, a si seritibus aliis plurimis
Episcopis, Prelatis, & Magnaribus ve-
nerabilibus, statim post dedicationem
Ecclesie sancti Pauli Londonensis, ut
peregrinantes hinc inde, indistanter re-
mearent.*

And in the same year, namely the morrow after St Michaels day, the conventional Church of the Canons at *Waltham*; was dedicated by William, Bishop of Norwich very solemnly, many other Bishops, Prelates, and venerable Peers assisting him: presently after the dedication of *St Pauls* in *London*, that Pilgrims and Travellers up and down might indistantly return.

It is clear our *Church of Waltham Abby* is intended herein, ^a England affording no other *Conventual Church*.

This being granted, how comes *Waltham Church* (built by *Harold* two hundred years before), now to be first Dedicated, that *Age* accounting it as faulty and fatal, to defer the *Consecration of Churches*; as the *Christening of Children*? 2. What made the *Bishop of Norwich* to meddle therewith? an *Office* more proper for the *Bishop of London* to perform, *Waltham* being (though not under) in his jurisdiction. 3. What is meant by the *Barbarous word indi- stanter*? and what benefit accrued to Travellers thereby? I will not so much as conjecture, as unwilling to *draw my bow*, where *I desair to hit the mark*; but leave all to the *judgment* of others. But I grow tedious, and will therefore conclude.

Anno 1641. King *CHARLES* came the last time to *Waltham*; and went (as he was wont, where any thing remarkable) to see the *Church*, the *Earl of Carlile* attending him; His Majestie told him, that he divided his *Cathedral Churches*, as he did his *Royal Ships*, into three ranks, accounting *St Pauls* in *London*, *Tork*, *Lincoln*, *Winchester*, &c. of the *first form*; *Chichester*, *Lichfield*, &c. of the *second*; the *welch Cathedrals* of the *third*, with which *Waltham Church* may be well compared, especially if the *Roof* thereof, was taken *lower* and *Leaded*.

The *Earl* moved His Majestie, that seeing this *Ancient Church*, (Founded by *King Harold* his Predecessor) was fallen into such decay, that the repair was

*a See Speed
his Catalogue
of religious
houses.
Querries on
queries.*

*R. Charles his
last coming
to Waltham.*

*Conditionally
granted the
repairing of
the Church.*

The History of Waltham-Abby.

But it miscar-
ries.

was too heavy for the *Parish*, he would be pleased to grant a moderate *Toll* of *Cattle* coming over the *Bridg*, (with their great *Drifiss*, doing much da-*mage* to the *High-wayes*) and therewith both the *Town* might be *Paved*, and the *Church* *repaired*. The *King* graciously granted it, provided, it were done with the privity and consent of a great *Prelate*, (not so late to be named as easie to be guesed), with whom he consulted in all *Church-matters*.

But when the *foresaid Prelate* was *informed*, that the *Earl* had *applied* to His *Majestie* before *addresses* to *himself*, he dashed the *design*, so that poor *Waltham Church*, must still be contented, with their *weak walls*, and *worse Roof*, till *Providence*, procure her some better *Benefactors*. As for the *Armes* of *Waltham Abby*, being loath to set them alone, I have joyned them in the following draught, with the *Armes* of the other *Mitred Abbes*, as far as my indu-*stry* could recover them.

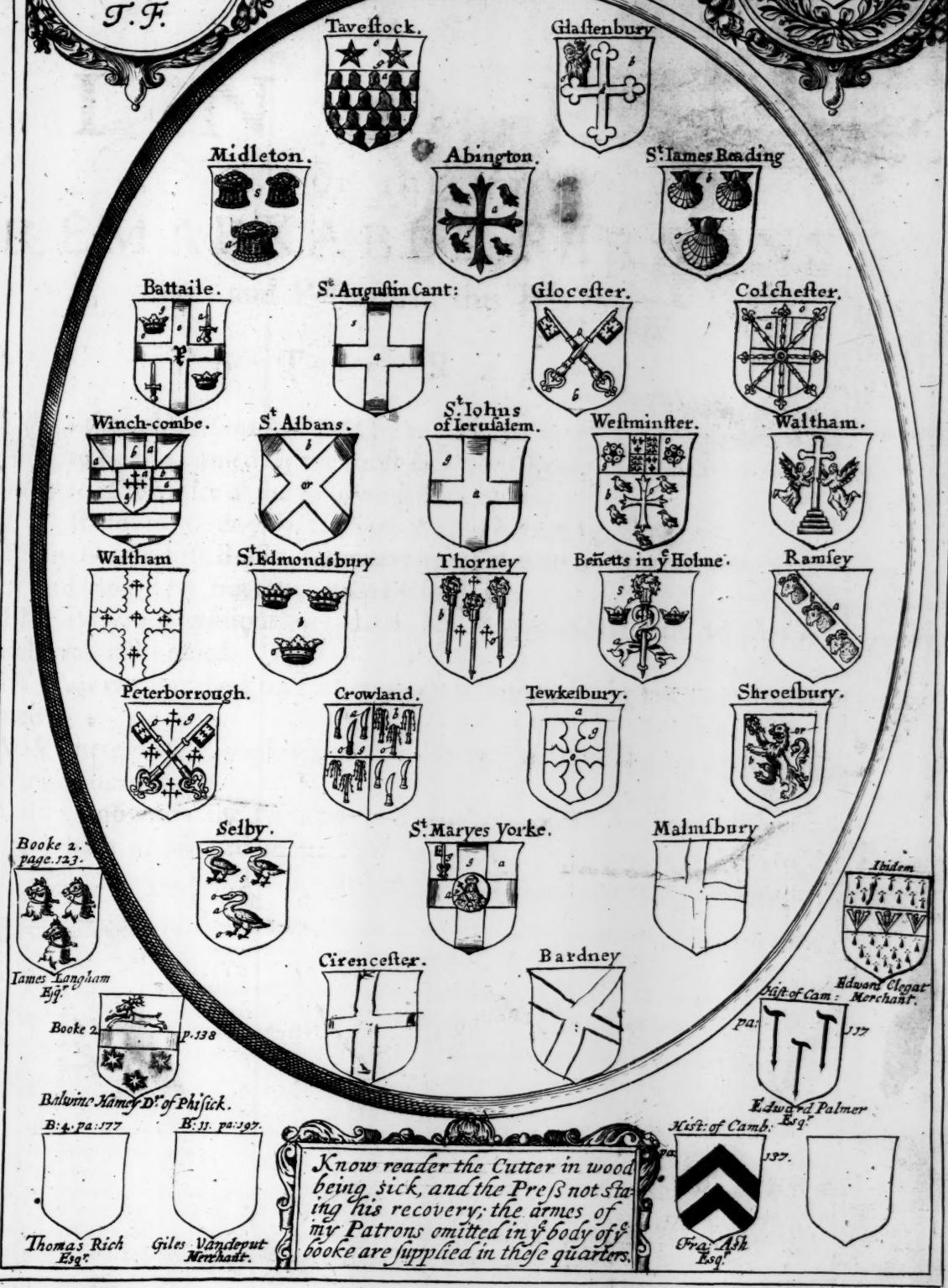
SOLI DEO GLORIA.

F I N I S.

Edwino Rich
Armiger
vni è Magistris
Curiae Cancellariae
Benefactori meo
munifico, in Gratitudine
dinis tesseram.

T. F.

THE SEALES OF
THE FIRMES OF ALL THE
MITRED ABBEYS IN ENGLAND



Booke 2.
page. 123.



Booke 2.
p. 138

Balwinus Hamer D^r of Phisick.

B. 4. pa. 177. B. 11. pa. 197.



Know reader the Cuter in wood
being sick, and the Pres not sta-
ing his recovery; the armes of
my Patrons omitted in y^e body of
booke are supplied in these quarters.



Edward Palmer
Esq.
Hist. of Camb.
pa. 137.

THE CROWN
AND CREST OF
THE
LADY

BY
JOHN
HARVEY
LONDON
1611

1611

